GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3975
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON EXPANSION AND MODERNISATION OF DD
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expenditure incurred on expansion and modernisation of Doordarshan services during the last two years has been static ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether 12% of the population in the country is unable to have access to Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to cover the entire population?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) & (b) : Expenditure of Rs.283.31crores and Rs. 281.89 crore has been incurred on expansion and modernization of Doordarshan network during 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively.

(c) & (d) : Though Doordarshan coverage is available in satellite mode throughout the country, coverage in the terrestrial mode is estimated to be available to about 89.6% population of the country (including the population in fringe areas). With the commissioning of on-going schemes, DD coverage is expected to become available to about 91.3% population. Extension of coverage in terrestrial mode is a capital intensive venture and its further expansion is dependent on availability of resources and inter-se priorities.